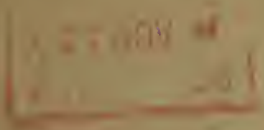


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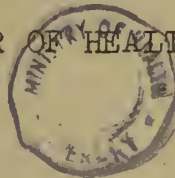


BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



FOR THE YEAR 1960

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	-- Margaret H. F. Turnbull, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	- D. A. Pamphilon, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	- J. Stocker, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

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"	F	-	Infectious Diseases.

BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Westgate,
Bridgnorth.
November, 1961.

To the Chairman and Councillors,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1960.

A few brief comments on some of its contents may be helpful by way of introduction.

1. In 1960 we had both the lowest Birth Rate and the highest Infant Mortality Rate for this area in the past decade.

The Birth Rate was 14.9 per 1,000 of the population, and below the average for England and Wales of 17.1 per 1,000 population.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 42.2 deaths per 1,000 live births which is almost double the average for the country as a whole (21.7). Too much significance should not be attached to this however. As has been pointed out in previous Reports, wide annual variations are liable to occur in this Rate in an area of small population.

The Still Birth and Death Rates are satisfactory and below the average. The Death Rate has remained fairly constant for the past 10 years.

2. The District remained remarkably free from the notifiable Infectious Diseases during 1960. Only 66 cases were notified as compared with 306 in 1959. The decrease is mainly due to the lower incidence of measles in 1960.

3. The Low Level Water Supply Scheme approached completion with the commencement of the final contract.

The need for mains water in the areas to be served by the High Level Scheme is very great, and it is to be hoped that its commencement will not be too long delayed.

4. The need for comprehensive sewerage and sewage disposal schemes in various villages and hamlets in the District received much consideration during the year, and the Council's Consulting Engineers were instructed to prepare outline plans for several of the areas. Such schemes are very desirable now that so much of the District is supplied with mains water.

Work on the extension to the Worfield Sewerage System began during 1960, and the extension to the Highley Scheme was expected to commence early in 1961.

5. The acquisition of land for refuse disposal continued to be a problem.

A disused mine-shaft at Kinlet was made available to us, and provided a useful tipping site. Negotiations in respect of land at Alveley and Billingsley were still proceeding at the close of the year.

6. No Council houses were completed in 1960 but work commenced on 8 houses and 4 bungalows at Claverley, and 14 houses at Highley were due to be started early in 1961.

Another 40 houses are due to be built at Alveley, but their construction awaits the provision of the comprehensive sewerage scheme for this village. Similarly the building of another 12 houses at Hilton awaits the proposed sewerage scheme there.

Until more houses are built very little progress can be made with slum-clearance. Only 10 individually unfit houses were dealt with during the year.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation of the valuable assistance given to me in the preparation of this Report by the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. D. A. Pamphilon (who was entirely responsible for compiling Sections C, D, and E), and by the Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. Stocker,

The willing co-operation and help afforded to me at all times by the Inspectors, and by our Clerical Assistant, is also gratefully acknowledged.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

Margaret H. F. Turnbull,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres.	100,897
Estimated Population (Mid-1960).	17,600
Number of Inhabited Houses (at 31:3:61)	4,222
Rateable Value of the District (at 31:3:61)	£137,503
Estimated Product of ld. Rate (at 31:3:61)	£550

VITAL STATISTICS

1. POPULATION

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the area at mid-1960 was 17,600 - an increase of 41.0 on the corresponding estimate for 1959.

The natural increase in population for the year, i.e. the difference between the number of deaths and the number of live births, was 86.

Estimated Mid-Year Population - 1950-1960.

Year	Mid-Year Population	Natural Increase
1950	16,580	92
1951	16,590	85
1952	16,510	89
1953	16,540	104
1954	16,180	108
1955	16,100	108
1956	17,010	69
1957	16,720	107
1958	17,030	100
1959	17,190	111
1960	17,600	86

2. BIRTHS

(a) Live Births

LIVE BIRTHS 1960

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total Live Births
Male	102	2	104
Female	103	6	109
Total	205	8	213
Rate per 1,000 of Population	11.6	0.4	12.1

Crude Birth Rate, per 1,000 of population - 12.1
 Standardised Birth Rate, per 1,000 of population - 14.9
 Birth Rate for England and Wales, 1960 - 17.1

There were 213 live births in the District in 1960 - a drop of 20 from the 1959 total. Of the 213, 8 were illegitimate (3.7%)

The 'Crude' Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population was 12.1, and the Standardised Birth Rate (which may be compared with that of other areas) was 14.9. This is the lowest figure to be recorded since 1950, and is well below the average for England and Wales for 1960.

LIVE BIRTHS 1950-1960

Year	No. of live births	No. of illegitimate live births	Standardised Birth-Rate per 1,000 of population
1950	210	10	14.2
1951	220	2	18.4
1952	227	*	19.0
1953	234	10	19.8
1954	229	6	17.6
1955	232	10	17.9
1956	206	4	15.0
1957	226	11	16.6
1958	229	9	16.5
1959	233	7	16.7
1960	213	8	14.9

* Figure not available.

(b) Still Births.

STILL BIRTHS 1960

Male	2
Female	1
Total	3

Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births - 13.9
 Still-Birth Rate, England and Wales, 1960 - 19.7

There were 3 still-births during the year, as compared with 2 in 1959.

The Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births (i.e. live births and still-births combined) was, therefore, 13.9. This is well below the corresponding national rate of 19.7

STILL BIRTHS 1950-1960.

Year	No. of live births	No. of still births	Still Birth-Rate per 1,000 total births
1950	210	2	9.4
1951	220	2	13.0
1952	227	4	17.3
1953	234	4	16.7
1954	229	4	17.2
1955	232	4	16.9
1956	206	4	19.0
1957	226	4	17.4
1958	229	8	33.8
1959	233	2	8.5
1960	213	3	13.9

3. DEATHS

Male	73
Female	54
Total	127

Crude Death Rate, per 1,000 of population - 7.2
 Standardised Death Rate, per 1,000 of population - 9.2
 Death Rate for England and Wales, 1960 - 11.5

127 inhabitants of the District died during 1960, 5 more than in 1959.

The 'Crude' Death Rate was, therefore, 7.2 per 1,000 of the population, and the 'Standardised' Death Rate, which allows for comparison with similarly standardised rates for other areas, was 9.2. This is lower than the average death rate for the year in England and Wales which was 11.5 per 1,000 of the population.

DEATHS 1950-1960.

Year	No. of deaths	Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 of population
1950	118	8.5
1951	137	9.3
1952	138	9.7
1953	130	9.3
1954	121	8.9
1955	124	9.1
1956	137	10.4
1957	119	9.1
1958	129	9.7
1959	122	9.1
1960	127	9.2

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1960

The Registrar-General's annual return gives the causes of death in the area during 1960 as follows:-

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.. ..	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria.. ..	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	-	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	4	16
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	5	14
18. Coronary disease, angina	11	6	17
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	1	1	2
20. Other heart diseases . ..	8	14	22
21. Other circulatory diseases.	5	5	10
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	3	1	4
24. Bronchitis . ..	-	-	-
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	10	16
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	1	1	2
34. All other accidents	1	2	3
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war ,	-	-	-
All causes	<u>73</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>127</u>

DEATHS DUE TO MALIGNANT DISEASE AND CIRCULATORY CONDITIONS

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total	% of total No. of deaths
Malignant disease (all types)	21	6	27	21.3
Diseases of Heart and Circulation	34	31	65	51.2

Malignant disease (all types included) was responsible for 27 deaths in 1960 as compared with 20 in the previous year. Of the 27, 5 were due to cancer of the lung or bronchus. There were no deaths from this cause in 1959.

Conditions involving the Heart and Circulation again accounted for about half the total number of deaths in 1960.

4. INFANT MORTALITY.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE, 1960.

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	4	-	4
Female	5	-	5
Total	9	-	9

Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births 42.2
 Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births (England and Wales 1960) 21.7

9 infants under the age of 12 months died during 1960, 7 more than in the preceding year. 7 of the deaths occurred in the first month of life.

The Infant Mortality Rate for the year was 42.2 per 1,000 live births, and was the highest during the eleven years for which records are available. It is practically double the corresponding rate for England and Wales for 1960.

INFANT MORTALITY 1950-1960.

(1) Year	(2) No. of Live Births	(3) No. of Infant Deaths		(4) Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	(5) Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births
		Under 1 year	Under 4 wks.		
1950	210	8	7	38.1	33.3
1951	220	3	*	13.6	*
1952	227	7	*	30.8	*
1953	234	6	4	25.5	17.1
1954	229	3	2	13.1	8.7
1955	232	4	2	17.2	8.6
1956	206	7	5	34.0	24.3
1957	226	6	6	26.5	26.5
1958	229	7	2	30.6	8.7
1959	233	2	1	8.6	4.3
1960	213	9	7	42.2	32.9

* Figures not available

5. MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were again no deaths related to pregnancy or childbirth in 1960, this being the sixth successive year with no maternal mortality. Since 1950, there have only been two maternal deaths, one in 1953, and one in 1954.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

No material changes in the provision of Health Services in the area took place during 1960. Much that appears in this section has therefore been recorded in previous Annual Reports, but is included again for the sake of completeness.

1. HOSPITAL AND SPECIALIST SERVICES.

The provision of hospital accommodation and specialist services in this area is the responsibility of Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The general hospitals most easily accessible to those living in the Rural District are those at Bridgnorth, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury.

Cases of Infectious Disease requiring isolation and hospital treatment are admitted to the Borough Hospital, Wolverhampton, or to Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury.

Patients with Tuberculosis receive treatment at Shirlett Sanatorium or Cross Houses Hospital, or at Sanatoria at Knightwick or Malvern. Shirlett Sanatorium was due to be closed at the end of March, 1961.

The chronic sick requiring hospital treatment are usually admitted to Shifnal Hospital, or to New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton.

2. GENERAL MEDICAL, DENTAL, PHARMACUTICAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY OPHTHALMIC SERVICES.

These services are administered by Salop Executive Council.

3. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES.

Salop County Council, as Local Health Authority, is responsible for the provision and administration of the following services:-

- Health Centres (None in this area).
- Care of mothers and young children.
- Domiciliary Midwifery.
- Health Visiting.
- Home Nursing.
- Vaccination and Immunisation.
- Ambulance Services.
- Prevention of illness, care and after-care.
- Domestic Help Service.

a) Maternal and Child Welfare.

The Child Welfare Clinic at Highley retained its popularity, and attendances were very satisfactory throughout the year. It is held in the Annexe to the Miners' Welfare Hall on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, from 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

Other clinics accessible to those in some parts of the Rural District are held at Cleobury Mortimer, Much Wenlock and Bridgnorth.

b) Welfare Foods.

The National Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod-Liver oil, and Vitamin A and D tablets) are available at the Welfare Centres during Clinic hours, and at various conveniently situated distribution-points throughout the district.

c) Health Visiting, Home Nursing, Domiciliary Midwifery.

One full-time Health Visitor serves a large part of the District adjacent to Bridgnorth and Health Visiting in other parts of the area is undertaken by District-Nurse Midwives in addition to their other duties.

Two District-Nurse Midwives are stationed in the Rural District - one at Highley, and one at Hilton. The rest of the District is served by Nurses based outside its area.

d) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Under the County Council's Scheme, Vaccination against Small-pox and Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping-Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis may be carried out by arrangements with a general practitioner or at any Child-Welfare Centre.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

During 1960 vaccination against Poliomyelitis became available for those between 25 and 40 years. All between 6 months and 40 years were then eligible for this protection, together with those in certain specified occupations who might be at special risk in the event of an outbreak of Poliomyelitis.

Special evening sessions for adults were held at the clinics throughout the year as the demand required, and infants and young children attended special day clinic sessions.

It was anticipated that during 1961 fourth injections would become available for young school children, and that those over the age of 40 could be vaccinated by their family doctors.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered each year to all children aged 12-13 years who are found by preliminary testing to require this protection. Only very few parents refuse their consent for this procedure, which is carried out at the schools.

e) Ambulance Service.

The Central Ambulance Department for the County is in Shrewsbury (Telephone No. Shrewsbury 6331) to which all requests for an ambulance should be made. Two ambulances and a car for sitting cases are stationed in Bridgnorth for use on local journeys.

f) Domestic Help Service.

The service of a domestic help is available, in the words of the Act for 'any person who is ill, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age.' Enquiries regarding this service are dealt with at the Domestic Help Office, Bridgnorth Welfare Centre (Telephone No. Bridgnorth 3078) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 2.15 and 4.30 p.m.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES.

COMPREHENSIVE SCHEMES.

1. JOINT HIGH LEVEL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

The above scheme is one which is to be entered into jointly by the Ludlow and Bridgnorth R.D.C's. It is now proposed that a bulk supply of water will be taken from the Elan aqueduct and be distributed by gravity to the High Level areas of 16 parishes in the West of the district.

The need for a mains supply of water in this part of the district cannot be too strongly emphasised, and it is to be hoped that the long protracted negotiations and preparations for the scheme will soon reach fruition.

2. LOW LEVEL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

The Low Level scheme supplying water to some 20 parishes in the district is now approaching completion and work on the final contract commenced during the year. It is gratifying to note that mains water is now available to such a wide area of the district, and it is to be hoped that all possible consumers will take advantage of the opportunity of connecting to the mains.

CLAVERLEY, WORFIELD, and RUDGE.

These parishes are within the Statutory area of the Wolverhampton Water Undertaking and the main centres of population are well served.

A report from the Wolverhampton Water Engineer shows that regular bacteriological sampling of the supply has proved it to be satisfactory at source.

A scheme to supply the Beobridge, Gatacre and Farmcote areas is still under review and various alternative schemes have been considered.

A branch main to the Wootton area was completed during the year, a bulk supply of water being provided from the Low Level Scheme.

PREMISES RECEIVING WATER FROM PUBLIC PIPED SUPPLIES AT 31st March, 1961.

	<u>No. of Premises</u>	
	<u>Direct Supply</u>	<u>Standpipe</u>
Alveley	193	7
Astley Abbotts	54	-
Billingsley	25	-
Chelmarsh	65	-
Chetton	14	-
Claverley	276	-
Deuxhill	4	-
Eardington	24	-
Glazeley	13	-
Highley	568	-
Kinlet	80	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
C/fwd.	1,316	7

<u>No. of Premises</u>		
	<u>Direct Supply</u>	<u>Standpipe</u>
B/fwd.	1,316	7
Middleton Scriven	5	-
Morville	23	-
Neen Savage	45	-
Romsley	7	-
Sidbury	1	-
Stottesdon	81	-
Tasley	56	-
(Civilian	209	-
Worfield (R.A.F. Houses	130	-
(R.A.F. Camp	1	-
	<u>1,924</u>	<u>7</u>

PURITY OF SUPPLIES.

(a) MAINS SUPPLIES.

All water now supplied to the district is received from the Birmingham and Wolverhampton Water Undertakings. The Council's Low Level Scheme is supplied from the Elan Aqueduct and is chlorinated at five chlorinator houses as it enters the mains for distribution.

Regular sampling of the water throughout the system is carried out to ensure that the chlorination has been effective and that no pollution has occurred in the course of distribution.

The samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Shrewsbury, for bacteriological analysis. A summary of the reports received during 1960 are as follows:

	<u>Public Mains</u>	<u>Elan Aqueduct</u>
Highly satisfactory	76	9
Not entirely satisfactory	4	-
Unsatisfactory	13	6

It will be noted from the above results when compared with those for 1959, that it has been considered necessary to place more emphasis on the routine sampling of mains water supplies. This is not as a result of poor samples having been obtained but by reason of the fact that the length of mains in the Low Level Scheme is continually increasing.

The routine sampling of supplies is a most valuable guide to the efficiency of the system, and is especially useful when new lengths of main are brought into use and any minor defects can be detected and rectified.

(b) PRIVATE SUPPLIES, WELLS AND SPRINGS ETC.

During the year 16 samples of water were taken from private supplies. The results of these samples were generally very poor and advice was given to the consumers on methods of improving the supplies, and treatment of the water before use.

It is generally found that private water supplies do not receive the attention and maintenance which is required to ensure a water supply which is at all times bacteriologically pure.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

During the year the Council gave consideration to the future provision of sewage disposal schemes for some nine villages and hamlets, and with this in mind the Council's Consulting Engineers were instructed to prepare outline schemes for consideration.

In order to provide the Consulting Engineers with up-to-date information on the circumstances prevailing in these areas, the Health Department carried out a detailed house-to-house survey. The sanitary circumstances of each property together with plans showing the present drainage outlets were recorded.

It is pleasing to note that a programme for the provision of sewage disposal facilities is now being considered. As water has been provided in many areas the problem of the disposal of sewage has become increasingly important. This has proved especially so in village communities where the disposal of septic tank effluents is difficult. The completion of such schemes will allow modernisation programmes to the existing houses to be considered.

A further problem which should not be lost sight of is the disposal of farm drainage. Many farms are now using water in increasing quantities both for dairying purposes and watering stock and the problem of the disposal of the drainage to ditches and watercourses is, in many instances, becoming acute.

It would appear that the only real solution of this difficulty lies in returning this drainage to the land, where its high manurial value may be utilised.

PARISH REPORTS.

Alveley:

During the year a Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed in respect of a modified area of land for the proposed sewage disposal works.

It is to be hoped that the commencement of this scheme will not be delayed unduly.

Stottesdon:

The need for a sewerage scheme for this village must again be stressed, and, although some progress has been made, disappointment must be expressed that the commencement of a scheme is not yet programmed.

Worfield:

Work commenced on an extension to the existing sewerage system during the year. When completed this will be capable of serving almost all properties within the confines of the village.

Highley:

It is anticipated that the proposed extension to the Highley sewerage system will be commenced early next year. This will cater for the Rhea Hall Housing Estate extension, will allow the existing works at Vicarage Lane to be dispensed with and will enable all sewage to be dealt with at one main works.

Hilton:

Adhering to their policy that the provision of future housing in villages should be preceded by the provision of sewerage facilities, the Council instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare an outline scheme for the village.

Morville:

During the year the Council instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare an outline sewerage scheme for this village.

REFUSE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

The Council continued to collect refuse from all parishes by direct labour throughout the year. A weekly collection is made in the more densely populated areas, and a fortnightly collection in the outlying areas. It is, of course, impracticable to collect from certain isolated and/or inaccessible properties.

Refuse is disposed of by semi-controlled tipping on land, the tips being situated at Highley, Alveley and Ditton Priors. A former mine shaft at Kinlet is also used for tipping.

Negotiations are still proceeding for the acquisition of further sites at Alveley (following the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order) and at Billingsley, for controlled tipping.

No progress has been made in acquiring land for a refuse tip in the North Eastern part of the district.

All the Council's tips receive regular treatment for the eradication of rodents and insect pests.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1936 AND 1948.

The Council is responsible, by the provisions of part I of the Factories Act, 1937, for ensuring the adequacy and suitability of sanitary conveniences in all factories in the district, and in the case of factories in which mechanical power is not used, is also responsible for inspecting the premises to ensure that working conditions are satisfactory.

At the end of 1960, there were 27 factories on the register, 25 using mechanical power and 2 non-mechanical.

A total of 17 inspections of factories were made during the year, when two defects were found.

Part VIII of the Act also gives the Council the responsibility for ensuring that premises in which any persons are employed as out-workers are not injurious or dangerous to health. No persons were notified by their employers as out-workers during 1960.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION

OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspec- tions (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
a) Factories in which Sections 1-4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	2	2	Nil	Nil
b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	25	15	2	Nil
c) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total.....	27	17	2	Nil

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more 'cases').

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness(S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
a)Insufficient.....	2	1	Nil	1	Nil
b)Unsuitable or defective.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
c)Not separate for sexes.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Out-work.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total.....	2	1	Nil	1	Nil

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

Sections 3 and 5 of the above Act place a duty on local Authorities in connection with the provision of sanitary conveniences on farms where agricultural workers are employed.

Specific visits are not made to agricultural holdings for this purpose, but when such premises are visited the subject is borne in mind. On no occasion has it been found necessary to serve notices, the desired result being obtained by an informal talk with the farmer concerned.

PEST CONTROL.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, requires a Local Authority to inspect all premises in their district, and to ensure that any infestations of rats and mice are dealt with either by the Authority, or by the occupier in the case of trade and agricultural premises.

The number of requests for the services of the Council's Rodent operative again showed the widespread necessity for this branch of the Council's work. In few other fields of environmental health work can one see such rapid results from one's labour. Not only does the householder gain quick relief, but the danger of rat-borne infections is eliminated.

The service was again used extensively in controlling rat infestations on Council tips, and fly infestations on tips and around sewage disposal works.

CARAVANS AND CARAVAN CONTROL.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, came into operation during the year and required the occupiers of all land on which caravans were sited to make application for a Site Licence under Section 3 of the Act.

The Ministry issued model standards with regard to the layout of, and the provision of facilities, services and equipment for caravan sites. Having regard to this model, the Council made conditions to be attached to site licences with a view to ensuring that all sites in the district would have first class accommodation and amenities for caravan users.

Although there were some 600 caravans in the district at the end of the year no licences under the new Act had been issued. Nevertheless negotiations with site operators were in progress regarding licensing conditions and it was hoped that many sites would be licensed early in 1961.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

The Council's work in the field of environmental health is both widespread and varied, but the work of the Public Health Inspectors was again concentrated on housing, neat inspection drainage, water supplies and caravans.

The following list of visits and inspections is a useful guide to where the main efforts have been. It should be noted that Meat Inspection is now taking up much of the Inspectors time, but this will be further commented upon under Food Inspection.

Housing - Public Health Act.	63
- Housing Act.	228
- Rent Act.	3
- Applications.	113
- Miscellaneous.	76
- Revisits to property.	93
- Interviews with owners etc.	10
- Drainage.	492
Complaints.	81
Tips.	30
Water Supply - General.	36
- Samples.	162
Rodent Control - Domestic.	8
- Trade.	5
- Farms.	44
Verminous Premises.	3
Factories Act.	9
Meat Inspection - Slaughterhouses	810
- Disposal of Condemned meat.	30
Food and Drugs - Catering.	23
- Retail shops.	47
- Licensed premises.	20
- Butchers.	35
- Bakehouses.	5
- Fried Fish Shops.	1
- Ice cream.	10
- Ice cream samples.	23
- Condemned foods.	4
Swimming baths.	4
Infectious diseases - Enquiries.	12
- Houses disinfected.	2
Keeping of Animals.	1
Offensive accumulations.	4
Miscellaneous.	46
Caravans.	142
Caravan Sites.	202
Total.. ..	<u>2,877</u>

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Number of inhabited houses (31:3:61)	4,222
Number of Council-owned houses (31:3:61)	472
Number of houses completed in 1960	
(a) Council	Nil
(b) Private	40
Number of applications for houses at 31:12:60	220
Number of houses under construction at 31:12:60	
(a) Council	12
(b) Private	40

The figure for Council-owned houses includes the agricultural hostels at Stottesdon and Morville converted some years ago into self-contained dwellings. Although these still form satisfactory units of accommodation, a policy should be considered to determine their life within the next few years.

40 privately built houses were completed (as compared with 36 in 1959), and a further 40 were in course of construction at the 31st December, 1960. The total number of private dwellings built in the post-war years is 247 as compared with 416 built by the Council in the same period.

POST WAR COUNCIL HOUSE-BUILDING.

Parish	Completed in year ending 31:12:60	Under Construction at 31:12:60	Total Completed Post-War
Alveley	-	-	50
Chelmarsh	-	-	12
Chetton	-	-	6
Claverley	-	12	32
Ditton Priors	-	-	20
Eardington	-	-	16
Eudon George	-	-	6
Highley	-	-	122
Kinlet	-	-	14
Monkhopton	-	-	14
Morville	-	-	18*
Neen Savage	-	-	10
Neenton	-	-	8
Shipton	-	-	6
Stottesdon	-	-	15*
Tasley	-	-	6
Worfield	-	-	61
	Nil	12	416
Highley - Pre-war Houses			56
Total of all houses:			<u>472</u>

(* Includes hostels converted into flats).

FUTURE HOUSING PROGRAMME.

It would appear that the erection of a further 150 houses over a period of say 7 - 10 years should meet the general needs of the District and also provide units of accommodation for dealing with slum clearance.

The Council's policy that future house building in villages will be preceded by sewerage is being adhered to.

A further 14 houses at Highley will be commenced in 1961, and their construction will coincide with the third stage of the Highley sewerage scheme. A further 40 houses at Alveley are contemplated, but their construction will depend on the provision of a comprehensive sewerage scheme for the village.

An extension of the No. 2 Hilton Site by a further 12 houses is also under consideration.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS - (HOUSING ACT, 1949).

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Rejected</u>
a) No of applications	21	20	1
b) No of dwellings involved	24	22	2
No of above applications approved in respect of Owner/Occupiers			- 7
Average total cost per dwelling approved			- £909 18s.
Amount of grant paid stated as 50%			- £347 6s.

STANDARD GRANTS (HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959).

No of applications received	- 25
No approved	- 24
Average cost per property	- £138 10s.

It will be seen that advantage is still being taken of housing grants, but the number of dwellings being improved in this manner is still somewhat disappointing. There are still many dwellings in the district which are capable of improvement to the required standards, and owners should be encouraged to take advantage of the facilities available for this purpose.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

During 1960 only 10 individually unfit houses were dealt with (12 in 1959). Little further progress is likely until more Council houses are available, and future house-building in its turn awaits the provision of comprehensive sewerage schemes in the villages.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the district. Two are used solely by the occupiers, but the third, at Eardington, is used regularly by five butchers, three of whom have their businesses in a neighbouring Authority's area.

All animals slaughtered at the slaughterhouses were inspected during the year. It must be stated, however, that owing to the increased throughput, especially at Eardington, more time has had to be directed to this service, probably at the expense of other work.

During the year the occupiers of the slaughterhouses in the district submitted to the Council their proposals for complying with the "Construction and Prevention of Cruelty Regulations." These proposals together with the Council's policy were incorporated in the "Slaughterhouse Report" but this had not been dispatched to the Minister by the end of the year.

The table below gives details of all carcasses inspected and condemned at slaughterhouses in the district during 1960.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	537	9	61	3,174	1,110	Nil
Number inspected	537	9	61	3,174	1,110	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	23	Nil	Nil	7	14	Nil
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	4.46	Nil	Nil	.25	1.26	Nil
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcass condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	23	Nil
Percentage of No. inspected affected	.55	Nil	Nil	Nil	2.11	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised, and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The total amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption at the slaughterhouses during the year was 10 cwts. 2 qtrs. 22 lbs.

It is interesting to note from these figures that although there has been a considerable increase in the numbers of animals inspected during the last 12 months, (a 46% increase on the 1959 total), there has been a drop of approximately 50% in the number of animals found to be infected with tuberculosis. This, of course, is undoubtedly due to the fact that this County is now an attested area.

Cystercercosis was found in 4 animals inspected, but in only one case was it necessary to submit the carcass for refrigeration.

METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

Condemned food stuffs are disposed of by deep burying on the Council's refuse tips. Condemned meat from the slaughterhouses is disposed of by its being transported by the Inspectors to the local Hunt Kennels where it is boiled for the hounds. Larger quantities of meat are stained green and disposed of by an approved knacker.

The Meat (Staining and Sterilising) Regulations, 1960 became operative on 1st November, 1960, and required all condemned meat from slaughterhouses to be either sterilised or destroyed. Where there are no facilities for sterilising condemned meat at a slaughterhouse, the authorised Officer must satisfy himself that all necessary precautions are taken to ensure that meat is delivered intact to the agreed destination.

FOOD INSPECTION.

It is an offence under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for a retailer to have in his possession food which is unfit for human consumption. Most retailers are aware of this, and bring the faulty goods to the notice of the wholesaler, who is generally only too pleased to exchange them.

In other cases, the unwholesome food is brought to the notice of the Public Health Inspector, who accepts its voluntary surrender, and issues a surrender certificate as a receipt. The retailer can then claim compensation for his loss.

The following quantities of food stuffs were surrendered in this way during the year:-

Vegetables	--	16	tins
Fruit	--	9	"
Meat	--	2	"
Milk	-	1	tin
Ox Liver	-	5½	lbs.

FOOD HYGIENE.

It would now appear that the majority of food premises in the district comply with the main structural provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. But it does not necessarily follow that food handlers are making use of the various facilities, or in fact appreciate why they should be used. Regular inspection of all shops, cafés and licensed premises will therefore, always be necessary and the education of food handlers in the principles of food hygiene must be the continued aim of the Council.

MILK.

The supervision of milk production is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

During the year the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960 were issued, which placed the responsibility for the issue of milk dealers' licences with the County Council. The regulations will operate from the 1st January, 1961.

The district was made a Specified Area during the year, and after 28th November, 1960 all milk sold by retail in the area had to be "specially designated", (i.e. sterilised, pasteurised or tuberculin tested).

ICE CREAM.

By the end of the year there were 54 premises in the district registered for the sale of ice-cream. There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district, the product sold in each case being pre-wrapped.

20 samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Shrewsbury, during the year, the results of which are detailed below:

<u>Grade 1</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>	<u>Grade 3</u>	<u>Grade 4</u>
15	4	1	Nil

As a guide to interpreting the above results, it is suggested that over a six monthly period, 50% of a vendors samples should fall into Grade I, 80% into Grades I or II, not more than 20% into Grade III and none into Grade IV.

FOOD PREMISES.

(a) The Type of Food Premises in the area:

1. Butchers' shops	-	12
2. Fried fish shops	-	2
3. Bakehouses	-	4
4. Licensed premises	-	51
5. General provisions stores	-	41
6. Catering premises	-	29
7. School canteens (without kitchen)	-	20
8. School canteens (with kitchen)	-	6

(b) Premises Registered Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

1. Manufacturers of preserved foods	-	9
2. Ice-cream dealers	-	54

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during 1960:-

Measles	-	32
Acute Pneumonia	-	21
Scarlet Fever	-	3
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	3
Whooping-Cough	-	2
Bacillary Dysentery	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	2
Food Poisoning	-	1
		<u>66</u>

In 1959, 306 cases of notifiable infectious disease were reported. The much lower total for 1960 is principally due to the greatly reduced incidence of measles as compared with the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The table below gives details of the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the close of 1960 and the alterations made during the year.

Respiratory Tuberculosis	Added to Register, 1960		Removed from Register, 1960				Total No on Register at 31.12.60
	New Cases	T.I.*	Cured	Died	T.O.*	Lost Sight of	
Male	2	1	2	0	0	1	32
Female	1	1	1	0	0	0	23
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	Added to Register, 1960		Removed from Register, 1960			Total No on Register at 31.12.60	
	New Cases	T.I.*	Cured	Died	Transfers Out		
Male	0	0	2	0	0	4	
Female	0	0	1	0	0	4	

*T.I. = Transfers in from other areas

*T.O. = Transfers out to other areas

At the 31st December, 1960 there were 55 cases of the respiratory disease and 8 cases of the non-respiratory forms still on the Register. The corresponding figures at 31st December, 1959 were 54 and 11.

Three new cases of the respiratory disease were discovered in the district during 1960, the same number as in 1959. There were no new non-respiratory cases, and no deaths from Tuberculosis in 1960.

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Reference has already been made in Section 'B' to the Immunisation and Vaccination procedures which are available against various infectious diseases.

